

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 18 as follows:

The previously described constructions of the present invention are essentially intended to achieve a geometrical predetermination or influencing of the travel path of the soil compacting device. In a particularly advantageous further development of the present invention, it is possible, as an alternative or in addition, to detect the state of compacting of the soil and to use this as a criterion in the path planning. This is possible in particular at the point over which the soil compacting device is currently traveling. Thus, for example it is known to draw conclusions about the state of compaction of the soil from the reaction forces acting on a soil contact plate of the soil compacting device, or on the basis of its damping behavior. It is also possible to recognize the extent to which the soil has already been compacted on the basis of changes in this behavior. In this connection, a compaction result detection device 19 is provided for detecting the actual state of compaction of the compacted soil. See for example DE 100 46 336 A1, WO-A-98-17865, and WO-A-95-10664, in which such possibilities for determining the state of compaction are discussed.